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Ridgefield, Washington 98642

January 3, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

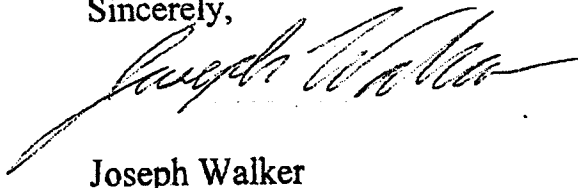
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The settlement pending in the Microsoft antitrust case currently represents the best available solution to this case. It is time to stop wasting resources on a battle that has already been resolved.

Under the settlement, Microsoft has agreed to be watched closely by an oversight committee that will make sure it complies with all of the terms of the agreement. Some of these terms include Microsoft designing future versions of Windows to provide a mechanism to make it easy for computer makers and software developers to promote non-Microsoft software within Windows, disclosing information about how Windows works, and not retaliating against its competitors' lawsuit. This will provide more choices for consumers, and stronger competition within the industry. The result will be beneficial to the IT industry.

I support this settlement and hope it is finalized in the very near future.

Sincerely,



Joseph Walker